

NATIONAL BREAST CANCER
AWARENESS MONTH

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 4, 2013

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, October is National Breast Cancer Awareness Month. This month is devoted to raising awareness and educating individuals about breast cancer and honor the thousands of women across our nation who have been diagnosed, fighting or have survived breast cancer.

Breast cancer is the most common cancer among women in the United States. 1 in 8 women will develop breast cancer over the course of her lifetime, and it is estimated that this year more than 230,000 cases of breast cancer. In the great state of Texas, 13,856 women were diagnosed with breast cancer in 2010.

In the Second District of Texas, I am proud of our local hospitals, school districts, and non-profits who promote breast cancer awareness and prevention during this month. My own staffer and casework manager, Whitney Rahim, has been affected personally by this disease. Whitney's mother, Cynthia Bryant, is a 5 year breast cancer survivor and a community volunteer for the Houston Avon Walk for Breast Cancer and the Houston Susan G. Komen for the Cure. Whitney and her mother, along with friends and family, walk in both races to raise funds for breast cancer research, education, screening and treatment. Almost everyone we know has been touched by this disease.

Last year, my friend John Garza with the Houston Police Department, received news that his wife, Virginia had stage 2 breast cancer. Virginia, like her husband, is a lifetime member of what is referred to in my part of Texas as the Poe-leece. It is an informal organization made up of my longtime friends in the Texas law enforcement community. I first met Virginia in 1993 at the North Harris County Criminal Justice Association breakfast meeting in Humble; she was then an agent with the DEA (United States Drug Enforcement Administration). I knew then that Virginia was a fighter and survivor. Virginia is a highly trained federal and state narcotics investigator; she has worked for the DEA, Harris County, Texas Department of Public Safety, and Humble Police Department. When Virginia was first diagnosed, she had just started working as a Senior Investigator at the Harris County Attorney's Office and had very little sick time accumulated. While receiving chemo treatments for a course of six months, she never missed a day of work! Virginia and John have five children and four grandchildren. One of Virginia's biggest fears was not being present or helpful for the birth of their third grandchild, I am happy to report that Virginia courageously battled cancer and she is cancer free and she recently saw the birth of her fourth grandchild.

Unfortunately, this disease has hit home for another one of our very own from the Houston Police Department. Senior Police Officer Linda Reichert was diagnosed with breast cancer in December of 2011. Every year, she made her routine mammogram appointment and on that day in December, she never thought she would receive the news that she did. Stage 0 breast cancer. Zero was a small number in

her mind but it wasn't until doctors discovered stage 2 cancer in her lymph nodes that she realized she couldn't take the small number for granted. It was an arduous road to recovery for her. However, after a double mastectomy, intense chemotherapy, and lymph nodes removal, she was able to return to a job that she is immeasurably passionate about. It was more than the medicine and surgeries that led her to becoming a breast cancer survivor. Officer Reichert exuded positive energy and happiness, even during her lowest moments. Hair loss and skin deterioration were part of her recovery, but with her support team of family, friends, coworkers and doctors at her side, she beat the odds that come along with this disease. Today, she feels top-notch with lots of energy and is back at work pushing her goal each and every day: making a difference in someone's life, even if it is just one person.

As a husband and father of three girls, I support funding for breast cancer research, screening, and treatment programs. I am an advocate for organizations that are dedicated to educating women about early detection by practicing regular self-breast exams and scheduling regular mammograms.

I would like to express my sincere admiration to the 2.8 million breast cancer survivors in our country, like Cynthia and Virginia, who have demonstrated courage in their personal fight against this disease. Their tireless work is an inspiration and a reminder that we must keep up the fight until there is a cure.

And that's just the way it is.

GREENE COUNTY COURTHOUSE
CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION

HON. BILLY LONG

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 4, 2013

Mr. LONG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor the 100th anniversary of the Historic Greene County Courthouse in Springfield, Missouri. The centennial will be celebrated on October 26, 2013.

The Greene County Courthouse was the fourth courthouse built for county use. It was moved to the geographical center of the city in order to unite the cities of what had been North Springfield and Springfield. After many political and financial battles, construction began in 1909.

The Historic Greene County Courthouse has proved important to economic growth, development, and prosperity for the city of Springfield and Greene County. The courthouse was a key part of the county's history and will be celebrated with displays, demonstrations, stories of numerous trials, as well as recognizing the elected officials who served in this grand building over the past 100 years.

On a personal note, the Greene County Courthouse is very special to my family and me. My Great Grandfather, Judge Benjamin Jacob Diemer, was the presiding judge of the county court and helped lead the drive for the new courthouse. He was a key figure in getting the courthouse built on its current location.

I am proud to honor the Greene County Courthouse's Centennial Anniversary.

CHUCK BAROCH

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 4, 2013

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Chuck Baroch for receiving the 2013 Golden Mayor's Award for Excellence.

This award recognizes extraordinary contributions to the Golden community and is presented to Chuck Baroch for his long service leading the Golden Civic Foundation, which supports economic development and nonprofit organizations in Golden, and for his 13 years on Golden City Council, the last six as mayor. He enhanced relationships with the Colorado School of Mines and represented Golden well in the disputes over the "Northwest Parkway," as well as contributed to the city's sustainability efforts. He brought an inclusive and gentlemanly manner to his interactions.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Chuck Baroch for this well deserved recognition by Mayor Marjorie Sloan and the City of Golden. Thank you for your dedication to our community.

IN RECOGNITION OF "NATIONAL
MANUFACTURING DAY"

HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 4, 2013

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of National Manufacturing Day, and to encourage our young people to seriously think about what manufacturing entails.

According to recent reports, 55 percent of manufacturers reported business growth in 2012 and 63 percent anticipate growth this year. Meanwhile, most of their employees are at least 45 years old, with retirement on the horizon. Within the next decade, three-quarters of the workforce in this sector will need to come from Generation Y if the industry is to keep growing and evolving at its current rate.

With statistics like these, companies across the nation recognize the need to recruit younger generations. For this reason they are opening their doors and welcoming our young people to tour factories and consider a career in manufacturing. By opening their doors, they want to educate young people on the skills necessary to find manufacturing work, and advise them that this work still pays better than many jobs.

Take Detroit's historic rise in automotive manufacturing and production as an example. Thousands of families found quality good-paying jobs, with benefits secured through collective bargaining at the auto plants. Although many of the manufacturing jobs that built our middle class over the 20th Century were shipped overseas, there is a new focus on bringing them back by recreating what manufacturing in American looks like today.

Right now, manufacturers are adding jobs at the fastest pace it has seen in the last few years, ramping up production of "Made in America" products. But while the manufacturing community is currently in the midst of resurgence, they are struggling to find qualified employees to fill these job openings.